

BRITAIN WILL START WAR ON THE 'SHIPPING TRUST' IN MUNITIONS

Monopoly of Merchant Vessels Has Taken Advantage of the Scarcity of Ships

BIG DRAIN ON THE ALLIES

War Sends Shipping Rates Sailing Upward

It cost \$40 to transport one horse to France at the beginning of the war; \$50 is the price now. It cost \$2.50 to ship a ton of coal to Italy; now it is \$25.

The British Government will break up the "shipping trust," which is using a monopoly of merchant vessels to charge exorbitant freight rates for munitions.

Drastic action will be taken by the British Government to break up a "shipping trust" which has taken advantage of a monopoly of merchant vessels to charge excessive freight rates.

Count Bertier de Sauvigny, agent for the French Government, who is in this city to buy horses for the allied forces, said today he had learned this from official sources.

"The British Government did not commandeer all British merchant vessels and some are now being used to carry munitions, which are owned by individual companies," said the Count de Sauvigny.

"About 25 privately-owned ships are now being used as horse transports, all of which are British, with a few exceptions. Most of the ships which were commandeered are used to transport troops and so there is a dearth of them for munitions."

SITUATION IS ACUTE. "The situation has become acute. It is very hard to get transports for horses and it is getting harder every day. This applies also to the shipment of other munitions. Not only this, but I understand the Italian Government is about to take some action with respect to Italian merchant vessels caused by the charging of excessive freight for coal shipments to that country. It is imperative that something be done to facilitate the transportation of war munitions to the allied nations."

"At the beginning of the war it cost \$40 to send one horse to France; now it costs \$50. A man you would call a coal king said the other day that the cost of shipping a ton of coal to Italy had increased from 12 shillings (about \$2.50), which was the cost when the war started, to 100 shillings (about \$25) now."

BIG DEMAND FOR HORSES. "The contracts for horses have been allotted to five agencies in this country, of which I am in charge of only one. The contracts call for drafts of 10,000 horses from each agency. My duties consist of judging the animals and doing the buying, and, especially, those using the shipping difficulties as those in charge. But I do know they are having a great deal of trouble in getting ships and that the cost has gone up to the figures I gave."

"There are few American merchant ships on the seas and almost all the munitions must be carried in British ships and those of other nations. There is another reason besides the shipping trust for the dearth of American ships, that so many ships are needed for transport service to Salonica, Egypt and other eastern destinations. And as time goes on, these ships which ply between England and continental ports, especially those using the channel routes, have to be greatly augmented. It is getting to be a serious problem."

"Of course, freight rates have been increased since the capture and sinking of merchant vessels by German ships, proving that German raiders are on the seas, but the charges have increased at a disproportionate rate."

THEY WAITED TILL T. R. GOT TO SEA BEFORE LAUNCHING BOOM

Gardner Admits Purposely Avoiding Risk of the Colonel's Answer

HE MIGHT HAVE SAID NO

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—More light on inside politics, designed to make Colonel Roosevelt the Republican Presidential nominee, was given today by Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts. He admitted that he and other Bay State leaders waited until the Colonel was safely at sea, on his trip to the West Indies, before announcing their candidacy as delegates to the Chicago convention pledged to Roosevelt.

NEW TRANSIT HEAD ASSUMES OFFICE

William S. Twining today took his seat at his desk in the Bourse Building as Director of the Department of City Transit, succeeding A. Merritt Taylor, resigned.



TWINING AT TRANSIT HELM; PLANS TO PUSH NEW SUBWAY AND 'L'

Will Complete Broad Street and Frankford Lines as Soon as Funds Are Available

FLOWERS FOR DIRECTOR

William S. Twining formally took charge as Director of the Department of City Transit today and issued this statement, after a conference with his assistant, George T. Atkinson, and chief engineer, Henry H. Quinby:

It is the intention of the Department of City Transit to carry out the completion of the Broad street subway and the Frankford elevated railway as soon as sufficient funds are available, and to prepare plans for such other subway and elevated work as may be authorized by City Councils.

Satisfactory progress is being made upon the City Hall station section of the Broad street subway. Thirty-six per cent. of the work on the column foundations for the Frankford elevated from Callowhill to Unity street has been completed and the steel erection is expected to be commenced about April 1. Contracts have been finally closed with the approval of the Public Service Commission for the foundations and steel superstructure of the Frankford elevated through the business portion of Frankford—Unity street to Dyre street.

Mr. Twining found his desk covered with flowers, the gifts of the office force. His first official act was to send for his two leading subordinates and discuss the work of the department. He will confer with Mayor Smith later in the week, and will go over the transit plans from beginning to end with the executive.

The Mayor administered the oath of office to Mr. Twining last week.

AMBASSADOR MARYE BROKEN BY WAR STRAIN

U. S. Representative to Russia Decides He Must Retire From the Service

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Ambassador George T. Marye, representative of the United States to Russia, has broken down under the war strain. He has decided that he must retire from the diplomatic service. Confidential advisers received here today say that the Ambassador either has resigned or will do so in the immediate future.

Ambassador Marye's confidential secretary, Ray Baker, reached the United States yesterday and hurried to Washington today. He declined positively to discuss the report that he had been commissioned by the Ambassador to present his resignation to President Wilson.

Baker conferred with Secretary of State Lansing this afternoon regarding conditions in the prison camps in Russia. At the instance of Ambassador Marye he urged Secretary Lansing to appoint a commission of 25 men to go to Russia to aid in relief work started by the Ambassador. Secretary Lansing took the matter under advisement.

WEAVERS GET \$2 RAISE IN KENSINGTON MILLS

Continued from Page One the result that all will share in the general prosperity. The 22 mills granting this increase are: SAUDEL, J. ACHESON, 24 and Huntington streets; LAWRENCE COLLINS, Howard street and Lehigh avenue; JAMES LOMAX CARPET MILLS, Jasper and Orleans streets; EDWARD C. READ & SON, 3729 Hope street; I. LOCKHART, 2d and Huntington streets; THOMAS BOGGS & SONS, INC., 2d street and Allegheny avenue; HENRY HOLMES & SONS, INC., Trenton avenue and Auburn street; JOHN GAY'S SONS, INC., Howard and Norris streets; THOMAS DEVELON'S SONS, INC., Hancock street and Lehigh avenue; DANIEL CURRIE, Lawrence street and Lehigh avenue; FURNACE MILLS CARPET COMPANY, 2d and Huntington streets; GEORGE CARROLL, Marshall street and Hunting Park avenue; HUGH NELSON, 1d street below Huntington street; GETTY & SPRATT, 2114 Huntingdon street; HARVEY FIBER CARPET COMPANY, Fanny, Trenton and Allegheny avenues; GEORGE J. KLEIN, INC., 2323 North Market street; JOHN KUESTNER MANUFACTURING COMPANY, 3945 North Ruth street; EDWARD LUDWIG & SON, Paley and Somerset streets; HENRY NOTH, JR., Jasper and Adams streets; WILLIAM SCHOLEE & CO., Wayne street and Belmont street; SWIRE, HEARING & CAIRNS, 111 Huntington street.

BILL TO AID FARMERS REPORTED FAVORABLY BY SENATE COMMITTEE

Plan Provides for Loans to Agriculturists at Not More Than 5 Per Cent., Extended for 36-year Period

MEASURE NONPARTISAN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The Holla rural credits bill, which promises loans to farmers at not more than 5 per cent., today was reported favorably to the Senate. Because of its nonpartisan support it is due to receive an advantageous position on the calendar.

The bill proposes to set up a nonpartisan farm loan board, with the Secretary of the Treasury as one member, the others appointed by the President. This board chartered local farm loan banks which will take mortgages from actual farmers and issue bonds with the mortgages as securities.

This plan, the committee that reported the measure claims, will standardize farm loans all over the country, since all mortgages must be approved by the board; and this security is expected to make the bonds salable at 4 per cent. They run for long terms and are guaranteed by the United States.

SUICIDE'S WIFE, DAZED, HALTS IN CALL FOR AID

George Hummel Shoots Himself, Police Say, Because of Illness and Worry

A man who, the police say, had been suffering for some weeks from grip and who had been worrying over his brother, a soldier in Verdun's army, killed himself by shooting early today in his residence at 242 North Fairhill street. He was George Hummel, 42 years old, an employee of the Hergin Milk Company, 2012 Market street.

The widow, Mrs. Anne Hummel, heard her husband go to the first floor of their home shortly after 2:30 o'clock this morning. A moment later there was the report of a pistol, and upon investigation she found her husband lying dead on the floor of the kitchen. Mrs. Hummel aroused her four children and went with them into the second-floor front room of her home, where they remained for several hours trying to decide what should be done. Finally Elizabeth, 16 years old, and Richard, aged 11, ran from the house to summon the family physician, Dr. Alva Tod, 447 Diamond street.

LOSES LIFE IN COLLISION

Motorman Dead, Passengers Hurt in Trolley Accident

WEST CHESTER, Pa., Feb. 15.—Motorman Myer H. Moore, 30 years old, was fatally injured and died later in a hospital. Motorman S. Dunn, was badly hurt and several passengers suffered injuries this morning in a collision between two trolley cars at Oremond, on the line between this place and Downingtown. Both motormen were caught between the colliding cars. The car of which Moore was in charge was approaching a siding on which the other car was waiting when the brakes failed and it crashed into the other one, the ends of both being crushed in.

RR SUNDAY OUTINGS \$1.00 FROM MARKET STREET WHARF... \$2.00 FROM DEAN STREET STATION... \$2.50 FROM MARKET STREET WHARF... Pennsylvania R. R.

Rich Richards Almanac No business is bigger than the man who runneth it. The tradesman who says "trade is dead" often is himself no live one.

BREWERS LOSE PLEA TO WITHHOLD RECORDS IN SLUSH FUND PROBE

U. S. Court at Pittsburgh Denies Motion to Quash Subpoenas for Election Contributions Witnesses

GRAND JURY TAKES CASE

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 15.—Judge W. H. S. Thomson in the United States District Court this afternoon handed down an opinion denying the petition of three brewery associations to quash the subpoenas in the Federal Grand Jury probe of brewery contributions to political campaigns.

The opinion is concurred in by Judge C. P. Orr. As a result, 40 minutes later the subpoenaed officials of United States and Pennsylvania Brewery Associations and the Brewers' Association of Western Pennsylvania were called before the Grand Jury by United States Attorney E. Lowrey Humes.

HUNT LETTER WRITERS WHO MADE THREATS TO HARM POLITICAL CHIEFS

John Monaghan, Who Escaped Injury When He Was Attacked in Hotel, Long in Suspense

Postal inspectors, working under the direction of Chief Postal Inspector James T. Cortelyou, today aided Acting Captain of Detectives James Tate to begin tracking down several persons, who, for weeks, have been sending threatening letters to prominent Philadelphians.

Public Service Commissioner John Monaghan, who narrowly escaped being shot yesterday by Luigi Di Berardino, an Italian lawyer, was one of the persons who received threatening letters.

Inspector Cortelyou said today that a Federal charge will be lodged against Di Berardino if it is found that the postal laws were violated.

WASHERMAN ELOPES

White House Washerwoman Elopes

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Romance has again blossomed forth at the White House. This time Lavinia Gibson, colored, one of the laundresses at the mansion, played the principal role.

VAN DUSEN FUNERAL THIS AFTERNOON

Funeral services for George R. Van Dusen, prominent lawyer who died Saturday at his home, 210 West Evergreen avenue, Chestnut Hill, will be held this afternoon at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chestnut Hill.

FIRST SEMIMONTHLY 'GHOST WALKS' FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

All, From Mayor Down, Benefit Under New Law

For the first time in the history of the city, municipal employees, from Mayor Smith down to the humblest clerk, today received a half month's salary. All the month, but the semi-monthly payment act, effective now, has changed the rule.

The act, approved by Governor Brumbaugh April 28, 1915, directs that all employees of cities of the first class shall be paid semi-monthly after January 1, 1916. The act was not complied with last month because the books of the city did not open for the year until January 26. The law affecting the payment of salaries of county officials twice a month became effective in July, 1915.

White House Washerwoman Elopes (continued) Today Lavinia is back at her tub, happy.

Van Dusen Funeral This Afternoon (continued) will be held this afternoon at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chestnut Hill.

TAX OF FIVE PER CENT. ON MUNITIONS LIKELY TO AID DEFENSE PLANS

Compromise to Compel Arms Manufacturers to Bear Part of Burden Expected by Congress Leaders

WILL HOLD CONFERENCES

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—A compromise whereby a 5 per cent. instead of a 10 per cent. tax will be imposed on the manufacture of munitions, thus settling one of the grave problems of raising money for national defense, is expected to be reached through conferences between Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Representative Flood, of Virginia, and other congressional leaders who favor a munitions tax.

Columbia Records advertisement featuring an illustration of four men singing and a gramophone. Text includes: 'The harmony of strong voices blended!', 'Columbia Records of male ensembles are not merely perfect reproductions...', 'Play and play them again—these records won't lose their charm for you...', 'FOR SALE BY' followed by a list of dealers.